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# House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. Everett].

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

Washington, DC, December 5, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable Terry Everett to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of May 12, 1995, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority and minority leaders limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida [Mr. Goss] for 3 minutes.

#### DIFFICULTIES IN HAITI

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I come to the well today to speak about the prospects for democracy in Haiti, an area where we have a great deal of investment. I am sorry to report that the news is even more dismal, there is more deterioration in the signs that we are getting toward democracy. We are not, and there are some four particular disturbing areas we need to have more information from the executive branch

First, we apparently are going to have elections on December 17 for the new President in the country of Haiti.

It is very important that we do that, but, of course, the elections have to be full, fair, free, democratic elections. There is no indication that the elections are indeed going to be full, fair, or free. In fact, most of the opposition parties are boycotting the election.

There is virtually no campaigning going on, with the exception of one party, which is the chosen party of the present President, and it is impossible to underestimate, in my view, the damage done by the parliamentary elections that basically caused the loyal opposition to lose faith in the system and refuse to participate in it.

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The second disturbing area has to do with these elections, and that is, it appears that some of our taxpayers' dollars that are being financed as aid to Haiti are indeed going into the chosen campaign of the party of the President there. There appear to be some unacsignificant counted moneys in amounts, and there is only one campaign in evidence, and it is a very well funded, lavishly orchestrated campaign. The indications are, certainly the rumors are strong and we have had no denials, that those are U.S. tax dollars that are running that campaign and providing for all those banners and T-shirts that are springing up around the country that is so poor that many people do not have T-shirts or food or medicine or other things they need. But these campaign shirts seem to be getting out there.

It appears also as we read reports in Miami that some of our tax dollars are being used to lobby ourselves. I suspect we will be hearing more on that as others look into those allegations that are going made about tax dollars that are going to lawyers and lobbyists in our own country.

The third area of concern is we have a new chief of the national police, which is the group supposed to provide the stability in Haiti once our troops leave in February. It turns out Colonel Solastine is an old Aristide friend, sort of a political hack, and has been head of the palace guard, and it is not expected that he is going to be able to bring either professionalism or independence to the national police.

The final problem that I point to this

morning is we just have had a cancellation of a business delegation from Haiti. Haiti desperately needs more investment and business. The Haitians who were coming here on a mission this week to talk to American legislators and businessmen about how to do that have canceled their trip because of the heightened tensions between the United States and Haitian Governments and because of the situation in Haiti, which they describe as "inopportune." Inopportune is a euphemism for we are scared to death, we are closing our business, there is no security, there is a lot of corruption, and there is much to be done. These are problems we need to look more into before we spend more tax dollars. I thank you. I look for a report from the White House on this.

## DRACONIAN IMPACTS OF PROPOSED BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as we know, negotiations continue, or at least we hope they are going to continue, over the budget, with this Republican budget that has passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, which President Clinton wisely says he cannot accept, and so negotiations are going on to try to see if the President can come to an agreement with the Republican leadership in the Congress.

I just wanted to spend a little time today putting what I call a human face

 $\Box$  This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g.,  $\Box$  1407 is 2:07 p.m. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

